

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA
LAKE CHARLES DIVISION**

STATE OF LOUISIANA, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DOUG BURGUM, in his official capacity as
Secretary of the Interior, *et al.*,¹

Defendants.

Case No. 2:24-cv-00820

Hon. Judge James D. Cain, Jr.

Hon. Magistrate Judge Thomas P. LeBlanc

**JOINT MOTION TO CONTINUE
STATUS CONFERENCE**

The parties to this case hereby jointly move the Court to continue the status conference set for March 25, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. (Dkt. 107) for a period of approximately two weeks, to allow the parties time to formalize an agreement that may eliminate the need for further litigation in this case.

Plaintiffs challenge a Final Rule entitled Risk Management and Financial Assurance for OCS Lease and Grant Obligations, 89 Fed. Reg. 31,544 (April 24, 2024) (the “Rule”). Following a change in administration, on January 20, 2025, President Trump issued Executive Order 14154 entitled, *Unleashing American Energy*, 90 Fed. Reg. 8,353 (January 29, 2025), Section 3 of which directs heads of agencies to review existing regulations to identify agency actions that impose “an undue burden on the identification, development, or use of domestic energy resources[.]” On February 3, 2025, Secretary Burgum issued Secretarial Order 3418, also entitled, *Unleashing American Energy*. Section 4(b) of that Order directs agency officials to prepare an “action plan” that will include steps “to suspend, revise, or rescind” the Rule.

¹ Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 25(d), Doug Burgum, in his official capacity as Secretary of the Interior, is automatically substituted for Debra Haaland.

Defendants are reviewing the Rule and anticipate announcing the efforts they will take to suspend, revise, or rescind the Rule. Counsel have been involved in discussions that would resolve the case without further judicial involvement and anticipate that they will be able to formalize any agreement within one week. It would therefore conserve the resources of the Court and the parties to continue the status conference for approximately two weeks to a time convenient to the Court.

Respectfully submitted this 25th of March 2025.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on March 25, 2025, I electronically filed the **JOINT MOTION TO CONTINUE STATUS CONFERENCE** with the Clerk of Court using the ECF system, which will automatically send email notification to the attorneys of record.

/s/ Paul A. Turcke
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